

**Transition Services (*cont'd.*)**  
For more information, call the **ADE/ESS, Flagstaff, 928-226-0849, Phoenix, 602-542-4013** or **800-352-4558**, or **Tucson, 520-628-6330**, or visit [www.ade.az.gov/ess/transitionservices](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/transitionservices).

Please note that at the time of publication all web sites were active, working links.

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Parent Information Network  
Exceptional Student Services  
1535 W. Jefferson, Bin 24  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
<http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/pinspals/>



# Where to Find Resources and Information on Special Education and Disability-Related Issues

Parent Information Network  
Exceptional Student Services

**Accessing resources and information**  
Resources and information can be found in a variety of ways and places. Due to limited space, this listing is not all-inclusive but rather a starting place for finding essential information on special education and disability-related issues.

**Advocates**  
Individuals who have received special training, and who take action to help someone else or on their behalf, are known as advocates. Advocates can help parents with special education matters, provide them with information or sometimes attend school meetings. Advocates can be obtained through disability-specific organizations or through a DES/DDD Disability Advisory Council (DAC). Call **602-277-4986** for the office closest to you; or, contact a PIN Specialist listed on the reverse side of this brochure.

**Arizona Early Intervention Program (AzEIP)**  
AzEIP assists eligible families and children (birth to three years old) with developmental and special health care needs. It provides a comprehensive, coordinated, community-based service delivery system, including therapies (OT, PT, Speech). Call **888-439-5609** or **602-532-9960** for the phone number and location of the closest AzEIP office.

**Arizona Department of Education/ Exceptional Student Services (ADE/ESS)**  
The ADE/ESS assigns each school district and charter school an Education Program Specialist who may be called regarding special education matters. Specialists may be contacted directly through the regional numbers below or through a toll-free number, **800-352-4558**. Special education information can be downloaded from web site [www.ade.az.gov/ess](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess).

- Flagstaff 928-679-8106
- Phoenix 602-542-4013
- Tucson 520-628-6330

**Arizona School Law**  
Information on school law can be obtained from the following web sites: [www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp?Title=15](http://www.azleg.state.az.us/ArizonaRevisedStatutes.asp?Title=15), Arizona Education Code [www.azsos.gov/public\\_services](http://www.azsos.gov/public_services), Arizona Administrative Code, Title 7, Education

**Assistive Technology**  
The mission of the Arizona Technology Access Program (AzTAP) is to increase access to assistive technology devices and services for individuals with disabilities and their families throughout Arizona. For more information, call **Phoenix, 602-728-9532**, or visit the web site at [www.nau.edu/ihd/aztap](http://www.nau.edu/ihd/aztap).

**Child Find**  
This is the ADE/ESS program which promotes the identification and serving of students with disabilities and provides developmental guide-lines and information for screening pre-schoolers. Call **Phoenix, 602-364-4015**, or **Child Find, 800-352-4558**.

**Enhancing Arizona's Parent Networks (EAPN)**  
This is a collaborative effort of parent groups, organizations and agencies that believe all children with special needs and their families should have timely access to information, support and training. For more information, call the **ADE, Parent Information Network, Phoenix, 602-542-3852; Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona, 520-324-3150; Raising Special Kids, 602-242-4366**; or a **PIN Specialist** listed on the reverse side. A list of additional organizations, training opportunities, and events can be found at the web site [www.ade.az.gov/ess/eapn](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/eapn).

**Information and Referral Service (I & RS)**  
The I&RS provides referral information on a variety of topics and organizations throughout the state. Call I & RS in **Phoenix, 602-263-8856** or

**800-352-3792**, or visit the web site [www.cirs.org](http://www.cirs.org). Call I & RS, **Tucson, 520-881-1794** or **800-362-3474**, or visit the web site at [www.azinfo.org](http://www.azinfo.org).

### **Libraries**

Public library information or reference desks can help patrons find information on unlimited topics. Many public, college or university libraries are connected to state or national libraries. Most libraries offer *free* access to the Internet and some offer computer classes.

### **Mediation System**

Mediation provides a method for *free* resolution of disputes between school districts or charter schools, and parents of children receiving special education services. Either the parents or the school district may request mediation, but both must agree to the process before the ADE/ESS will assign a mediator. A brochure on Mediation is available by calling the **Mediation Coord-inator, ADE/ESS, Phoenix, 602-542-3084** or **800-352-4558**, or by visiting the web site at [www.ade.az.gov/ess/dispute](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/dispute).

### **National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY)**

NICHCY publishes a great variety of resources on various disabilities and special education topics. Call **800-695-0285**, voice/TTY, or visit web site [www.nichcy.org](http://www.nichcy.org).

### **Parent Information Network Clearinghouse (PINC)**

Contact the PIN Specialists, in the next column, for English or Spanish resources related to academic achievement, early childhood, self-advocacy, special education, parent involvement, disability-specific information, IEPs, behaviors, relationship building, transition, or workshops and presentations. Documents and information may also be downloaded by visiting the PIN web site at [www.ade.az.gov/ess/pinspals](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/pinspals).

### **Parent Information Network Specialists (PINS)**

PINS are consultants who provide on-site and phone consultation, workshops and presentations in special education matters, and information and referral to support students receiving special education services. *Network News*, published by the PIN, features current, topical issues and information for parents and professionals. To be added to the mailing list, to schedule workshops for your school, district, or agency, or to request information, contact your regional PIN Specialist, below:

#### ***Apache and Navajo Counties***

Jana Bays, 928-537-0250

[jbays@frontiernet.net](mailto:jbays@frontiernet.net)

#### ***Cochise, Graham and Greenlee Counties***

Interim, Parent Information Network, Phoenix  
602-542-3852 or Toll Free 800-352-4558

#### ***Coconino, Mohave and Yavapai Counties***

Allison Meritt, 928-289-5834

[merittpin@cableone.net](mailto:merittpin@cableone.net)

#### ***Gila and Pinal Counties***

Tina Swearingen, 520-836-3023

[tswearingen@gmail.com](mailto:tswearingen@gmail.com)

#### ***La Paz and Yuma Counties***

Teri Rademacher, 928-344-0141

[trademacher@adelphia.net](mailto:trademacher@adelphia.net)

#### ***Maricopa County – Eastern (area code 480)***

Barbra Ross, 480-443-7609

[barbraross@qwest.net](mailto:barbraross@qwest.net)

#### ***Maricopa County – Western (area codes 602 & 623)***

Sharon Moeller, 480-288-1245

[Sharonstime3@aol.com](mailto:Sharonstime3@aol.com)

#### ***Pima & Santa Cruz Counties***

Kristie Melkers, 520-225-7377

[k\\_melkers@comcast.net](mailto:k_melkers@comcast.net)

### **Procedural Safeguards**

Procedural Safeguards are those procedures established by federal and state laws to preserve and protect certain educational rights for students with disabilities. For a copy of procedural safeguards, call your school district Special Education office, an ADE Education Program Specialist (see pg. 1), or a PIN Specialist. The procedural safeguards may also be downloaded in English or Spanish from an ADE web site at [www.ade.az.gov/ess/forms.asp](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/forms.asp).

### **Project SELECT**

Special Education Learning Experiences for Competency in Teaching is a federally funded program sponsored by the Arizona Department of Education. SELECT courses provide training to persons seeking to expand their skills in working with children with disabilities. The courses are recommended for general and special education teachers, related services personnel, para-educators, and other interested individuals. If taken for professional growth, classes are free for public school personnel. For more information, call **Northern Arizona University, 928-523-8137**, or visit the SELECT web site at [www.nau.edu/~ihd/SELECT](http://www.nau.edu/~ihd/SELECT).

### **Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA)**

Administered by the Arizona Department of Economic Security, RSA provides specialized services to eligible individuals with disabilities. Services include vocational rehabilitation, independent living and employment support. To find the closest RSA office, check the state government listing for *Economic Security, Department of*, in the "blue" pages of your phone book, visit the vocational rehabilitation web site at [www.de.state.az.us/rsa](http://www.de.state.az.us/rsa) or call **800-563-1221**.

### ***Special Edition***

The ADE/ESS newsletter, ***Special Edition***,

provides information on special education topics, staff development opportunities, legislation, and disability issues. For a copy, call the **ADE/ESS, Phoenix, 602-364-4005** or **800-352-4558** or visit the web site [www.ade.az.gov/ess/cspd/default.asp](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/cspd/default.asp).

### **SUPPORT Cadre**

SUPPORT (a System for Utilizing Peers in Program Organization Review and Technical Assistance) is an ADE/ESS service that provides peer consultants to teachers and administrators when professional expertise is requested or required to improve the education of children with disabilities. There is no charge to the school or district for this service. Call the **SUPPORT Cadre Coordinator, Phoenix, 480-570-9046**, or [www.ade.az.gov/ess/supportcadre.asp](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/supportcadre.asp).

### **Training Opportunities**

PIN Specialists present specially tailored workshops, presentations, and video sessions for parents; educators; service providers; and college, high school, or elementary students on a wide variety of topics. A list of the trainings can be obtained from a PIN Specialist or downloaded from [www.ade.az.gov/ess/pinspals](http://www.ade.az.gov/ess/pinspals).

School personnel or agency staff using a facilitators' guide can facilitate many of the video workshops. Some school districts use the workshops to help parents acquire the necessary skills to support the implementation of their child's IEP or IFSP.

### **Transition Services**

Public Law 108-446, the Education of Individuals with Disabilities Improvement Act (IDEA '04) states that the first IEP to be in effect when a student turns 16 must include postsecondary goals based upon age-appropriate transition assessments related to training, education, employment and independent living skills, where appropriate; and the transition services needed to assist the student in

reaching  
*cont'd.*)

those

goals.